

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

27 March 2012

Mr. Parry Klassen
Executive Director
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition
1201 L Street
Modesto, CA 95954

Mr. Joseph C. McGahan
Watershed Coordinator
Westside San Joaquin River Watershed
Coalition
P.O. Box 2157
Los Banos, CA 93635

CHANGES IN DIAZINON AND CHLORPYRIFOS TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD MONITORING SCHEDULE AT SAN JOAQUIN RIVER COMPLIANCE POINTS

The East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition and the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition (the Coalitions) are implementing a monitoring and reporting program to assess compliance with requirements of the San Joaquin River diazinon and chlorpyrifos control program in the Basin Plan. The Coalitions' monitoring strategy to comply with numeric water quality objectives and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) objectives includes quarterly monitoring of chlorpyrifos and diazinon in the San Joaquin River at six compliance points, and monthly tributary monitoring based on each Coalition's approved monitoring plan. The Coalitions' San Joaquin River Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon 2010 Annual Monitoring Report to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) indicated that the tributary monitoring could not be accurately related to chlorpyrifos and diazinon concentrations and loading in the San Joaquin River.

In order to determine compliance with loading capacity for chlorpyrifos and diazinon in the San Joaquin River, the 2012 monitoring efforts at the compliance points shall focus on periods of peak application of chlorpyrifos and diazinon. The Coalitions should have already completed one sampling event in the first quarter of 2012. Central Valley Water Board staff evaluated pesticide use report data and the Coalition monitoring results to identify when the greatest applications and exceedances of chlorpyrifos and diazinon generally occur. Based on the staff evaluation, the six water quality compliance points designated in the Basin Plan (page IV-36.03) shall be monitored monthly from May to August. No monitoring is required after August when the use of chlorpyrifos and diazinon is relatively low. Monthly tributary monitoring by the Coalitions will continue based on the approved monitoring plans.

The above changes in the chlorpyrifos and diazinon TMDL monitoring schedule are effective immediately, and apply to the 2012 calendar year only. Central Valley Water Board will evaluate these monitoring results, and make additional recommendations in subsequent years.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Susan Fregien at 916-464-4813, or by e-mail at sfregien@waterboards.ca.gov. For general inquiries, you may contact the office mainline at 916-464-3291.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer